

REMARKS

This is in response to the Final Office Action dated December 1, 2009. Applicant has amended the application as set forth above. All the features of the amended claims are fully supported by the originally filed application. Thus, the amendments do not add new matter to the application. Upon the entry of the amendments, Claims 1, 3, 4, 7, and 8 are pending in this application. Applicant respectfully requests the entry of the amendments and reconsideration of the application.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

The Examiner rejected Claims 1, 3-4 and 7-8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hires (US 2,254,893). Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner. However, in order to clarify the inventive points of the present invention, Applicant has amended Claims 1, 4, and 7.

Claim 1 of Instant Application (*Emphasis added*)

A binder sheet, configured so that the binder sheet is removably inserted into a binder and is made of a transparent material, comprising:

a binding portion provided on a first side of the binder sheet;

a paper storing portion provided on a second side to store paper;

an upper horizontal band attached to an upper portion of the paper storing portion of the binder sheet, with left and right attachment lines vertically formed on left and right side edges of the upper horizontal band so as to keep an upper portion of the paper from loosening off the binder sheet; and

a lower horizontal band attached to a lower portion of the paper storing portion of the binder sheet, with left and right attachment lines vertically formed on left and right side edges of the lower horizontal band and a lower attachment line horizontally formed on a lower edge of the lower horizontal band so as to keep a lower portion of the paper from loosening off the binder sheet and falling downward through the lower horizontal band, wherein a pocket is defined by the left and right attachment lines and the lower attachment line.

wherein the binder sheet exposes substantially large portions of the paper other than portions covered by the upper and lower horizontal bands and allows a user to write on the paper without taking the paper out of the binder sheet, and minimizes reflecting light from the binder sheet interfering viewing the paper,

wherein an interval between the upper horizontal band and the lower horizontal band is determined by a size of paper to be stored.

wherein a height of the lower horizontal band is larger than a height of the upper horizontal band.

Claims 1 and 7 of the present invention are directed to a binder sheet having bands for holding papers, in which the binder sheet comprises an upper horizontal band (10) and the lower horizontal band (10') for securing paper to be stored.

Especially, the lower horizontal band (10', 50') includes left and right attachment lines (11', 12', 60', 61') and a lower attachment line (13', 62'), which defines a pocket in the lower horizontal band (10', 50'). (See Figs. 2 and 7; page 4, lines 11-18)

Also, the height of the lower horizontal band (10', 50') is larger than a height of the upper horizontal band (10, 50). (See Figs. 2 and 7; page 4, lines 9-11)

In addition, the interval between the upper horizontal band (10, 50) and the lower horizontal band (10', 50') is determined by a size of paper to be stored. (See Figs. 2 and 7; page 4, lines 1-5)

Hires discloses an album leaf, which includes transverse lines (3), a strip (8), a flexible flap (9), openings (10, 11, 12), strips (13, 14). The transverse lines (3) are arranged in sets to form spaces (4). The strips (13, 14) are passed through the openings (10, 11, 12). And, the spacing of the strips (13, 14) as well as the spacing of the sets of lines (3) vary in accordance with the area desired for the spaces (4).

First of all, however, Hires does *not* disclose anything like the lower horizontal band of the present invention. The flap (9) may perform a function of limiting the horizontal movement some of the articles (5, 6), but does not form or include anything like a pocket in the present invention.

Whereas, in the present invention, the lower horizontal band (10', 50') includes a pocket defined by the left and right attachment lines and the lower attachment line, such that the lower portion of the stored paper is supported and held in the pocket safely.

Furthermore, the space (4) in Hires's album leaf is not determined by the articles. It seems that the album leaf of Hires provides spaces (4) for many kinds of articles. Therefore, Hires could NOT provide anything like the pocket in the lower horizontal band in the present invention. In some cases, stamps (7), one of the articles, should be secured to the leaf by adhesive or other means. (See page 2, lines 10-15 in the left column)

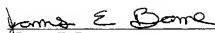
In the present invention including Claim 4, however, the intervals between the upper and lower horizontal bands and between the left and right attachment lines are determined by the dimension of the paper to be stored. Therefore, the amended Claims 1, 4, and 7 are *not* taught or suggested by Hires. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the amendments and remarks made above, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1, 3, 4, 7 and 8 are in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully solicited, if required, under the *Examiner's Amendment*. If it is believed that a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of the present application, or clarify matters with regard to its allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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James E. Bame
Regis. No. 44521
Tel: 213-384-7200
IPLA P.A.
3550 Wilshire Blvd 17th Fl.
Los Angeles, CA 90010